

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR BILATERAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

FOR SCIENCE SECTION:

1. HERE IS DRAFT OF CURRENT COVERING MEMO TO QUARTERLY
REPORT. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S COMMENTS BY DEC 3,
RPT DEC 3. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT:

INTRODUCTION-- MUCH OF THE ACTIVITY DURING THE QUARTER
RELATED TO PREPARATIONS FOR ANNUAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETINGS,
SEVERAL OF WHICH TOOK PLACE IN OCTOBER. IN GENERAL,
BOTH SIDES STRESSED AT THESE MEETINGS THE IMPORTANCE OF
MOVING EXISTING PROJECTS TO THE STAGE OF JOINT WORK RATHER
THAN OF EXPANDING INTO NEW AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION,
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AND OF TAKING MEASURES TO OVERCOME BUREAUCRATIC OBSTACLES
AND COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES WHICH CONTINUE TO IMPEDE
PROGRESS IN SOME PROJECTS. WHILE NO CLEAR PATTERN EMERGED
DURING THE QUARTER, IT IS NOTEWORTHY THAT THE SOVIETS

PERMITTED ENVIRONMENTAL WORK-RELATED VISITS TO AREAS OF SIBERIA AND THE FAR EAST, WHICH ARE NORMALLY CLOSED ZONES. AT THE SAME TIME, WE STILL HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO VISIT A GEOTHERMAL INSTALLATION ON KAMCHATKA. SIMILARLY, IN EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION, WE RECEIVED SOME NEW AND USEFUL

DATA UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL AND SPACE AGREEMENTS, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT MADE SATISFACTORY PROGRESS IN OBTAINING DATA ON SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE REQUIREMENTS IN MAJOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES.

TRANSPORTATION -- ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROBERT BINDER HEADED THE US DELEGATION TO THE THIRD MEETING OF THE US-USSR JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, HELD IN MOSCOW, SEPTEMBER 2-4. THE MEETING MARKED A TRANSITION FROM EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND DELEGATIONS TO PLANNING FOR JOINT ACTIVITY. SUCH ACTIVITY IS EXPECTED TO DEVELOP

FIRST IN AUTOMOBILE TRANSPORT AND IN TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION. THE SOVIETS AGREED TO TEST UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS WE CANNOT DUPLICATE A NEW US DEVICE WHICH PREVENTS A DANGEROUSLY BELOW-PERFORMANCE DRIVER FROM STARTING HIS VEHICLE. IN TUNNELING, BOTH SIDES WILL INITIATE A PROGRAM OF COMPLEMENTARY STRESS TESTING OF TUNNEL LINERS IN SIMILAR SOIL CONDITIONS AND SHARE RESULTS. THIS COULD ULTIMATELY LEAD TO LOWER CONSTRUCTION COSTS. THE SOVIETS ARE PROVIDING US WITH TEN CONCRETE RAILROAD TIES WHICH WE WILL TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY MIGHT BE USEFULLY EMPLOYED HERE.

ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE, THE SOVIETS SIGNED A CONTRACT TO BUY AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL (ATC) EQUIPMENT FROM SWEDEN'S STANSAAB. THIS OCCURRED AT THE TIME OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, WHEN THE SOVIETS WERE GIVING US THE IMPRESSION THEY WOULD PURCHASE U.S. ATC EQUIPMENT. THEIR DECISION MEANS WE WILL NOT PROVIDE SOFTWARE AND OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON U.S. ATC EQUIPMENT, AND WE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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HAVE SO INFORMED THEM. AT THE MEETING, THE SOVIETS CITED PRICE AS THE REASON FOR BUYING FROM STANSAAB. HOWEVER, ONE SOVIET OFFICIAL PRIVATELY REJECTED THIS ARGUMENT, TERMED THE DECISION ON A POLITICALLY-BASED MISTAKE, AND SAID SOVIET TECHNICIANS KNOW THE U.S. EQUIPMENT IS MUCH BETTER.

SPACE -- THE MAJOR EVENT WAS THE SUCCESSFUL APOLLO-SOYUZ TEST FLIGHT. AN APPRAISAL OF SCIENTIFIC RESULTS AND SIGNIFICANCE WAITS ON DATA ANALYSIS WORK NOW IN PROGRESS. CREW VISITS TOOK PLACE IN BOTH COUNTRIES AT

THE END OF THE QUARTER WITH HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION AND EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE ON BOTH SIDES, ALTHOUGH NATIONAL COVERAGE IN THE US WAS NOT AS EXTENSIVE AS IN THE USSR.

WE HAVE APPROACHED THE SOVIETS CONCERNING POST APOLLO-SOYUZ COOPERATION IN (1) FURTHER JOINT MANNED SPACECRAFT OPERATIONS; (2) MUTUAL ACCOMMODATION OF PAYLOADS AND ASTRONAUTS; (3) DEVELOPMENT OF A SPACE STATION, AND (4) PRACTICAL SPACE APPLICATIONS REGARDING OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION, SUCH AS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND AGRICULTURE. AMONG THE SIGNIFICANT BENEFITS NASA SEES IN FURTHER COOPERATION ARE ASSURANCE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF A SPACE RESCUE CAPABILITY, AND THE DIVISION OF COSTS IN MONITORING CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL PARAMETERS AND IN ESTABLISHING LARGE RESEARCH FACILITIES IN EARTH ORBIT. A FORMAL MEETING TO DISCUSS FURTHER COOPERATION WILL TAKE PLACE EARLY NEXT YEAR.

IN OTHER AREAS, THE SOVIETS WENT MUCH FARTHER THAN IN THE PAST BY PROVIDING US WITH IMAGERY OF THE MARS SURFACE ACQUIRED BY THEIR MARS 4 AND 5 ORBITERS. WHEN PROCESSED

BY OUR METHODS, WHICH ARE MORE ADVANCED THAN THOSE OF THE SOVIETS, THESE DATA WILL HOPEFULLY CONTRIBUTE TO DECISIONS ON THE 1976 LANDING OF THE NASA VIKING SPACECRAFT. POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR THIS RESPONSIVE SOVIET PERFORMANCE MAY BE THE SUCCESS OF ASTP AND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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INFLUENCE OF THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE SOVIET INSTITUTE OF SPACE RESEARCH.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY -- MUCH OF THE ACTIVITY AT THE WORKING LEVEL WAS FOCUSED ON DEFINING ISSUES AND PREPARING FOR THE OCTOBER 2--4 JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. TWO NEW TOPICS IN SOFTWARE AND DECISION MAKING WERE DEFINED IN APPLICATION OF COMPUTERS TO MANAGEMENT, AREAS WHERE WE EXPECT TO BENEFIT FROM ADVANCED SOVIET WORK IN MATHEMATICS. THE SOVIETS, HOWEVER, WILL NOT HAVE DIRECT EXPOSURE TO OUR COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY. IN MICROBIOLOGY, THE SOVIETS ACCEPTED OUR REQUEST TO INTENSIFY WORK ON SOUND AND LIGHT ACTIVATED ENZYMES, AN AREA WHERE THE SOVIETS LEAD IN BASIC RESEARCH. IN ELECTROMETALLURGY, WE HAD EXPECTED DELIVERY IN OCTOBER OF A SOVIET-MADE HIGH-NITROGEN-LEVEL STEEL INGOT (A TYPE OF STEEL WE DO NOT PRODUCE) FOR US TO TEST, BUT

IT WAS NOT SENT, PERHAPS BECAUSE THE SOVIETS ARE ENCOUNTERING TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WITH THE CASTING.

DR. H. GUYFORD STEVER, THE PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE ADVISOR, HEADED THE US DELEGATION TO THE FOURTH ANNUAL JOINT COMMISSION MEETING HELD IN MOSCOW. AT THE SESSION, BOTH SIDES AGREED IN GENERAL TO CONCENTRATE ON JOINT WORK IN EXISTING AREAS OF COOPERATION TO INSURE THEY YIELD PRODUCTIVE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RESULTS, RATHER THAN EXTEND COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES TO NEW AREAS. THE COMMISSION DOUBLED THE LEVEL OF RESEARCH FELLOW EXCHANGES IN CHEMICAL CATALYSIS, AN AREA IN WHICH JOINT RESEARCH HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PIONEERED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT.

WE MADE KNOWN FORMALLY OUR UNHAPPINESS WITH DELAYED COMMUNICATIONS, MISMATCHED DELEGATIONS, CHANGES IN ITINERARIES, AND THE SUPERFICIAL NATURE OF SOME OF THE WORK, AND OBTAINED SOVIET ASSURANCES THAT RECENT

INSTANCES OF ABRUPT CHANGES IN PLANS WOULD NOT BE REPEATED. IN MICROBIOLOGY, THE SOVIETS ATTRIBUTED THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO SHOW US THEIR SINGLE-CELL PROTEIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLANTS TO PATENT PROBLEMS, BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD SOON MAKE PROPOSALS TO RECIPROCATATE FOR SIMILAR FACILITIES WE SHOWED THEM.

SOVIET PERFORMANCE DURING THE QUARTER REMAINED UNEVEN, REFLECTING PERHAPS THE POTENTIALLY SENSITIVE NATURE OF SOME OF THE TOPICS BEING DEALT WITH AND CUMBERSOME INTERNAL CLEARANCE PROCEDURES INVOLVING DIFFERENT MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS. TWO NOTABLE SHORTFALLS WERE THEIR LAST-MINUTE REFUSAL TO SHOW US FACILITIES FOR LARGE-SCALE PRODUCTION OF PLASTICS IN THE WATER RESOURCES FIELD. AND AN UNWILLINGNESS TO ARRANGE FOR SEVERAL US COMMISSION MEMBERS TO VISIT A MAJOR COMPUTER RESEARCH CENTER. IN RESP SE, WE HAVE BEGUN MONITORING SOVIET REQUESTS TO VISIT U.S. COMPUTER FACILITIES.

AGRICULTURE -- WE HAVE SENT THREE CROP INFORMATION TEAMS (WINTER WHEAT, SPRING WHEAT, AND VEGETABLE OIL/

SUNFLOWER SEED) TO THE USSR THIS YEAR. THE LAST TWO OF THESE WERE COMPLETED THIS QUARTER;; ALTHOUGH THE SOVIETS EXERCISED TIGHT CONTROL OVER AREAS VISITED, CASTING SOME UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT HOW REPRESENTATIVE A SAMPLE WE GOT, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH TEAM VISITS OFFER ONE MEANS

TO MEET PARTIALLY OUR INFORMATIONAL NEEDS. WE ALSO FIND THAT GREATER WILLINGNESS OF SOVIET OFFICIALS AT THE LOCAL

LEVEL TO PROVIDE DATA IS PROVING HELPFUL IN DRAWING
CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE OVERALL STATE OF SOVIET AGRICULTURE.

FURTHER, USDA SEES PROGRESS IN THE INCLUSION OF SOVIET
FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN JOINT MEETINGS AND
SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE HISTORICAL (UNDERScoreD)
FOREIGN TRADE DATA FOR THE FIRST TIME.

ASIDE FROM THE CONTINUING DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING
CURRENT (UNDERScoreD) ECONOMIC DATA ON FOREIGN TRADE
REQUIREMENTS, MOST PRACTICAL PROBLEMS IN SOVIET
PERFORMANCE WERE RELATED TO SCHEDULING OF VISITS AND
ITINERARIES.

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY RICHARD BELL HEADED THE U.S.
DELEGATION TO THE THIRD ANNUAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
IN MOSCOW OCTOBER 15-17, AT WHICH PROGRAMS WERE APPROVED
FOR 1976. CONSISTENT WITH THE PATTERN DEVELOPING IN
OTHER AGREEMENTS, IT WAS DECIDED TO CONCENTRATE ON JOINT
WORK IN SEVERAL SELECTED AREAS, SUCH AS SEED EXCHANGE
AND DIAGNOSIS OF ANIMAL DISEASES, RATHER THAN EXPLORE
NEW AREAS FOR COOPERATION.

MEDICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH -- SOVIET PERFORMANCE
WAS GENERALLY SATISFACTORY. THEY PROPOSED SOME
BROADENING OF THE INFLUENZA PROJECT TO MAKE RESEARCH
MORE COMPATIBLE WITH U.S. INTERESTS, BUT SOUGHT TO AVOID
USING GENERAL MORTALITY AS AN INDICATOR OF INFLUENZA
ACTIVITY, PROBABLY BECAUSE IT WOULD INVOLVE PASSING
DEMOGRAPHIC DATA THEY REGARD AS SENSITIVE. IN
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, A PROMISING AGREEMENT WAS REACHED
ON STUDIES OF HAZARDS OF MICROWAVE RADIATION WHICH MAY
AID IN SETTING STANDARDS FOR HUMAN EXPOSURE.

AFTER THE QUARTER ENDED, THE JOINT COMMITTEE HELD ITS

FOURTH MEETING IN BETHESDA, OCTOBER 18-24. HEW
ASSISTANT SECRETARY COOPER HEADED THE U.S. DELEGATION.
THE MEETING WAS SUCCESSFUL IN ASSURING BOTH SIDES THAT
CONTINUED COOPERATION WOULD YIELD IMPORTANT MUTUAL
BENEFITS. THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED PROBLEMS RELATED TO
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND, AS AN INTERIM MEASURE,
AUTHORIZED TOPIC COORDINATORS TO RESOLVE QUESTIONS
ACCORDING TO GUIDING PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED BY THE
JOINT WORKING GROUP ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY UNDER
THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT.

IN OTHER DECISIONS, THE JOINT COMMITTEE AGREED TO EXPLORE

THE POTENTIAL FOR COOPERATION IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH,

ORGANIZATION AND DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES, AND
BIOMEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS. A NEW PROJECT AREA FOR 1975-
1976 WAS SET, THE ORGANIC BASIS OF SCHIZOPHRENIA,
MOVING THIS AGREEMENT TOWARDS WORK IN THE FIELD OF
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PSYCHIATRY FOR THE FIRST TIME.

AT THE MEETING, HEW SECRETARY MATTHEWS ACCEPTED AN
INVITATION FROM SOVIET DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER VENEDIKTOV
TO VISIT THE USSR.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION -- WE SCORED SEVERAL FIRSTS
DURING THE QUARTER: IN THE PROTECTION OF NATURE AREA,
A U.S. MIGRATORY FOWL SPECIALIST WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST
WESTERNER SINCE THE REVOLUTION TO VISIT WRANGEL ISLAND,
OFF THE NORTHEASTERN COAST OF SIBERIA; IN THE
EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION AREA, THE U.S. WORKING GROUP
CHAIRMAN WAS TOLD HE WAS THE FIRST FOREIGNER TO VISIT
A MAJOR FAULT CLOSE TO THE SINO-SOVIET BORDER IN
KIRGHIZIA; AND UNDER THE TSUNAMI PROJECT (LARGE OCEAN
WAVES GENERATED BY SEISMIC MOVEMENTS), TWO U.S.
SCIENTISTS ALSO FOR THE FIRST TIME VISITED SAKHALIN
ISLAND, A CLOSED AREA, TO ANALYZE SEISMIC DATA.

SOVIET PERFORMANCE REMAINED GENERALLY SATISFACTORY.
HOWEVER, SCHEDULING AND PROGRAMMING DIFFICULTIES
CONTINUED TO INTERFERE WITH THE SMOOTH

CONTINUED TO INTERFERE WITH THE SMOOTH OPERATION OF THE
LARGE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE.
IN ADDITION, SOVIET RESTRICTIONS ON PROVIDING US WITH
MAPS, COORDINATES OF SEISMIC STATIONS, AND AERIAL
PHOTOGRAPHS IMPEDED GEOLOGIC FIELD PROGRAMS IN THE
EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION AREA. WE RAISED THIS AT THE JOINT
COMMITTEE LEVEL, BUT IT APPEARS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE
UP AGAINST THEIR OWN NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION TOOK PLACE IN WASHINGTON OCTOBER 28-31, AND
WAS CHAIRED BY EPA DIRECTOR AND U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN RUSSELL
TRAIN. WE FOUND IT SIGNIFICANT THAT THE SOVIETS
REPEATEDLY LET US KNOW THAT THEY ARE UNDER DEFINITE,
HIGH-LEVEL PRESSURE TO ENSURE THAT PROJECTS PRODUCE
CONCRETE RESULTS.

WORLD OCEANS -- SEVERAL CONSULTATION AND PLANNING MEETNGS
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TOOK PLACE, ALL REPRESENTING MODEST FORWARD MOVEMENT ON PROJECTS. IN GENERAL, THE SOVIETS CARRIED OUT THEIR OBLIGATIONS IN A RELATIVELY EFFICIENT MANNER. WE NOTED INSTANCES, HOWEVER, WHERE SOVIET INSTITUTIONAL JEALOUSIES AND LACK OF PUNCTUALITY IMPEDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROJECT ACTIVITY.

WE FOUND THE SOVIETS PREPARED AND EAGER TO DISCUSS FUTURE COOPERATION IN THE SOUTHERN OCEAN (DRAKE PASSAGE) AREA FOR THE 1975-80 PERIOD. UNDER THE MID-OCEAN DYNAMICS EXPERIMENTS (POLYMODE), FREER ACCESS BY SOVIET RESEARCH SHIPS TO U.S. PORTS OF BOSTON, WOODS HOLE, AND BUZZARDS BAY WAS DISCUSSED, WITH THE RESULT BEING COAST GUARD APPROVAL OF SHORTENED NOTICE FOR THEIR ENTRY TO BUZZARDS BAY. THIS EASES LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS SOMEWHAT. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE FEEL THAT WITHOUT THE SHIP TIME REPRESENTED BY SOVIET VESSELS IN THE POLYMODE PROJECT (40 MONTHS -- OR \$5 MILLION WORTH OF FUNDING) A TRULY SUCCESSFUL LARGE-SCALE OCEAN INVESTIGATION WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION -- ACTIVITY DURING THE

QUARTER WAS LARGELY AT THE WORKING GROUP LEVEL. IN THE FIELD OF CONSTRUCTION IN SEISMIC AREAS, THE SOVIETS APPEARED ENTHUSIASTIC AND COOPERATIVE IN CONTRAST TO THEIR LACK OF INTEREST DURING THE JUNE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING, WHERE WE INSISTED SUCCESSFULLY THAT THEY ACCORD PROPER ATTENTION TO THIS PROJECT AREA OF PRIORITY INTEREST TO US. THEY HAVE SINCE PROPOSED A TWO-YEAR PROGRAM CONCENTRATING ON EXCHANGES IN MASONRY AND PRE-FABRICATION PANEL CONSTRUCTION; WE SEEK TO ADD RESPONSES OF STRUCTURES AND SHEAR WALLS TO STRONG GROUND MOTION.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN EXTREME CLIMATES OR UNUSUAL GEOLOGICAL CONDITIONS, AN AREA IN WHICH WE ARE CONVINCED THE SOVIETS HAVE USEFUL EXPERIENCE IN PERMAFROST CONSTRUCTION TO SHARE, WE ARE HOPING TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ARRANGE FOR JOINT WORK IN A SOVIET COLD REGION FIELD AGENCY AND IN ALASKA IN RETURN FOR MEETING SOVIET INTEREST IN A SIMILAR EXCHANGE FOR ARID REGIONS. THIS WORKING GROUP HELD ITS FIRST MEETING IN MOSCOW IN NOVEMBER.

ATOMIC ENERGY -- PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN MODERATE, BUT GENERALLY SATISFACTORY, WITH CONTROLLED THERMONUCLEAR RESEARCH (CTR) BEING

THE MOST ACTIVE AREA OF COOPERATION.

IN THE CTR AREA, SOVIET PHYSICISTS SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS
IN THE U.S. INVESTIGATING TOKAMAKS (A SOVIET

DESIGN APPROACH TO SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF UNIFORM
PLASMA FLOW IN FUSION REACTORS) AND SEEKING WITH U.S.
SCIENTISTS WAYS TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. THE
SOVIETS ALSO PROPOSED AND WE ARE CONSIDERING A
SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF JOINT CTR MATERIALS RESEARCH
FOR 1976-80. SUCCESSFUL U.S. VISITS TO THE USSR ON
TOPICS OF PULSED REACTORS AND DYNAMIC STABILIZATION OF
HIGH TEMPERATURE PLASMAS GAVE US NEW INSIGHTS INTO
SOVIET APPROACHES TO THE FUSION PROBLEM.

ALSO, PROSPECTS FOR PRIVATE SECTOR INVOLVEMENT WERE

OPENED BY AN ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PALO ALTO)
TEAM VISIT WHICH EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT
PROGRAM TO TEST U.S. FISSION BLANKETS ON A SOVIET FUSION
DEVICE. THESE TESTS COULD PROVIDE NEUTRONIC DATA NEEDED
TO DESIGN HYBRID REACTORS THAT COMBINE FISSION WASTE
BURNERS WITH FUSION REACTORS.

THE WORKING GROUP ON FUNDAMENTAL PROPERTIES OF MATTER
MET IN JULY AND AUGUST TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO
ROLE, PROCEDURES AND MAKE-UP OF A JOINT COORDINATING
COMMITTEE IN THIS PROGRAM AREA, AND SEVERAL ISSUES
REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED.

IN THE FIELD OF FAST BREEDER REACTORS, WE ARE AWAITING
A SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSAL FOR EXCHANGES IN STEAM
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GENERATOR TECHNOLOGY AND RELATED ACCOUSTICAL DETECTION,
AND ON-SITE TUBE INSPECTIONS AND CARBON TRANSPORT.

ENERGY -- IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OCTOBER 1974 JOINT
COMMITTEE MEETING, THE TEMPORARY GROUP OF EXPERTS ON
ENERGY INFORMATION AND FORECASTING MET AND AGREED TO
RECOMMEND TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE THAT WORK BEGIN IN 1976
ON TWO TOPICS, FORECASTING METHODOLOGIES AND IMPROVED
USE OF FUEL-ENERGY RESOURCES. IN THE OIL AREA, WE ARE
AWAITING SOVIET PROPOSALS IN RESPONSE TO OUR SUGGESTION
OF FIVE TOPICS. FOR COAL, THE SOVIETS HAVE PROPOSED
EIGHT PROJECTS, ONLY ONE OF WHICH (COAL PREPARATION)
SEEMS SUITABLE FOR GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT COOPERATION.
WE HAVE ASKED FOR SOVIET COMMENTS ON THE MORE DETAILED
U.S. SUGGESTIONS ON COAL PREPARATION. IN THE GAS AREA,
DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSALS AWAITS A VISIT BY A U.S.
DELEGATION TO THE USSR.

IN THE ELECTRIC POWER PROJECTS AREA, THE FIRST JOINT WORK ON SOVIET MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS INSTALLATIONS TOOK PLACE (MHD IS AN APPROACH TO MORE EFFICIENT USE OF FOSSIL FUELS IN ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS IN WHICH THE SOVIETS COULD COMPLEMENT OUR WORK). A 127-HOUR TEST RUN OF A U.S. CHANNEL ON A SOVIET GENERATOR YIELDED USEFUL DATA ON THE PERFORMANCE OF COMPONENTS. AGREEMENT HAS

BEEN REACHED ON THE SPECIFICATIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN A REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS FOR A REFRIGERATOR WHICH THE U.S. IS TO LEND TO THE USSR FOR SUPERCONDUCTING TRANSMISSION RESEARCH, BUT DELIVERY HAS BEEN DELAYED BY U.S. BUDGETARY RESTRAINTS. IN A POSSIBLY RELATED MOVE, THE SOVIETS HAV DELAYED UNTIL 1978 THEIR DELIVERY OF A SUPERCONDUCTING CABLE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE REFRIGERATOR. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR PERPARATORY WORK, WE DO NOT EXPECT THAT THESE DELAYS WILL HAMPER JOINT WORK SUBSTANTIALY.

IN SEVERAL AREAS, SOVIET PERFORMANCE LEFT SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED. THEY HAVE NOT YET REPLIED TO OUR REQUEST

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TO VISIT A SPECIFIC MHD GENERATOR; U.S. GROUPS

IN THE ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS AND IN THE THERMAL POWER FIELDS WERE NOT PERMITTED TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS AT SOVIET HYDROELECTRIC AND NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES, AND WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS THE SOVIETS ON OUR TECHNICAL INTERESTS IN VISITING A GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT, IN THE KAMCHATKA CLOSED AREA, EVEN THOUGH THE SOVIETS CLAIM THE PLANT IS NO LONGER OPERATIONAL.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS -- ON NOVEMBER 11 I CHAIRED A MEETING WITH THE U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS PROBLEM AREAS, RECENT SOVIET PROPOSALS FOR MAJOR PROJECTS, AND THE NSC REQUEST FOR A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SPECIALIZED BILATERALS TO DATE. HOW BEST TO FUND THE AGREEMENTS WAS THE CHIEF PROBLEM COMMON TO ALL US AGENCIES INVOLVED. U.S. AGENCY PROPOSALS FOR MAJOR PROJECTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN RESPONSES TO THE

NSC REQUEST. IN EVALUATING OUR POLICY OBJECTIVES AND REVIEWING OUR PAST COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS, WE ARE COORDINATING WITH THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ON THEIR CURRENT TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT TO BETTER MEET THE REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED BY GROWING CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THRIENDLY HEARINGS HELD

WAS REFLECTED IN GENERALLY FRIENDLY HEARINGS HELD
NOVEMBER 18-20 AT WHICH DR. STEVER AND RUSSELL TRAIN
TESTIFIED." END TEXT OF DRAFT. KISSINGER

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